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# **BRACKISH GROUNDWATER DESALINATION: INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESSFUL AND ECONOMICAL PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

**Joseph W. Norris, P.E., NRS Consulting Engineers**

Recent growth in demand for alternative water resources in South Texas has resulted in a rapid growth of brackish groundwater desalination plants, including the largest in Texas. This paper will focus on the successes and lessons learned from Southmost Regional Water Authority Desalination Plant and other projects completed or underway in the area. By completing regional projects by construction management methods, Owners are realizing proven savings and development of projects faster than conventional methods of construction. Projects completed and under construction have save the owner as much as 30% in costs and 50% in timesaving. Only local funds were used to achieve these savings.

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